|  |
| --- |
|  |
| Action Plan Updates/Annual Reports 2014-2015 |
| **CFUW Board of Directors, Regional Directors,**  **Committee Chairs and Appointees** |
|  |
|  |
|  |

## Contents

Board of Directors 3

Regional Directors 21

Committees 44

Special Appointees --------------------------------------------------------------48

National Office 50

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Doris Mae Oulton,**

**President CFUW**

This is an amazing organization. Each member I meet, each Club I visit, each AGM I attend adds to my ‘great/challenging/impressed’ library. We travelled 8000 kilometers in the first three months of this biennium; the spring trip to the West added another 5400; and the visit to the Ontario AGM will add another 2100 before our Quebec AGM; we will have travelled nearly 20,000 kilometers. This is a vast country and everywhere I learned new things; met Ambassadors, Ministers, Princesses, and celebrities; dined in the wonderful Hycroft dining room, the U of A Faculty Club, the cafeteria of the United Nations and the living rooms of many members. CFUW has had ‘op ed’s in newspapers both local and national, letters to the editors and articles in national publications. We have put over 400 posts on our Facebook page, 300 Tweets, and answered over 8,000 e mails. The feedback from news agencies and decision makers is consistent: we have well researched and documented material that offers reasonable and well thought out recommendations: a splendid reputation to maintain.

Robin and I, as part of ‘Operation Connect’, spoke to most Club presidents and we found four consistent concerns: high dues, succession planning, membership and various communication issues. We are tackling these in a number of ways including a new approach to the 2016 AGM in St. Catherine’s which will focus on the best practices within CFUW. Clubs told us they learn best from the successful experiences of other Clubs. We will try to make those learnings real. This year we have tackled membership through a Task Force that will make a report at the Quebec AGM and we will introduce a White Paper on Resolutions to try to make the resolutions procedures more accessible.

The work of the 100th Anniversary project – including the biographies of Past Presidents - is really progressing well. An amazing amount of time and effort has gone into producing products of which we will all be proud in 2019. Our 100th Anniversary Scholarship continues to grow at an impressive rate.

Advocacy initiatives are strengthening both domestically and internationally and the addition of an education focus, should that bylaw amendment pass, will give us a very robust approach to increasing our voice and our visibility.

The name change for IFUW, now GWI, has led us through some troubled waters and we will spend the next year looking at our relationship with GWI and our future. International finance continues to have real challenges for us.

The International presence of CFUW continues to grow: we had a successful visit to the UNCSW59 (where CFUW has ‘standing’) this year with twenty delegates, with two of our members conducting three workshops on topics related to our resolution on non-state torture. The extensive report available on the website is impressive. Clubs across the country are entering into exciting international projects on their own with such projects as supporting schools in Malawi and Afghanistan, and Clubs continue to generously fund our International Women’s’ Day project.

We have a great Board who do an impressive amount of work, excellent staff who do an impressive amount of work, Clubs who do an impressive amount of work and a solid reputation (well deserved) for excellent work. Thank you for your support – we have much more that we need to achieve in ensuring that there is a strong Canadian voice supporting the rights of girls and women but an excellent base from which to build.

**Linda Russell,**

**VP British Columbia**

It is our practice to consider and share the goals of the National, Provincial and Club levels of CFUW. BC Council focuses on goals that include national interests and the interests of Clubs in the province. This allows us to support our Clubs, to develop leadership skills and to increase membership knowledge of CFUW in general.

The Clubs, our Regional Directors and our Council Executive are to be thanked for their efforts to create a voice for CFUW in BC

**Membership**

We will use our membership data from the past three years to create a picture of our progress to date to increase our membership. It will tell us whether our approach of making personal contacts and a concerted effort basically in September is successful.

For 2015-2016 we should look to a different model.

Our effort should target a group or have a specific number in mind.

The effort requires a committee to maintain the effort throughout the year.

The Club should have a role for new members and new members should make an effort to serve the Club. The transition period for new members should take several years. (The attrition rates tend to rise after one year.)

An increase will help to sustain our programs and voices in BC.

Of note, one Club added over 40 members this year while another added one member. Each increased its membership by 10 %. We value both.

**Advocacy**

This is our major endeavor. Goals, membership and profile all join together to present our values in our advocacy programs.

A) Poverty/Child Care work has been our main focus for three years. We began by undertaking a poverty project in our communities. There was often a presentation by the Club while others chose to join a community group in its activity.

In the second year Clubs carried a petition to their community asking for legislation regarding poverty and child care. The petition was then forwarded to the Legislature.

In the third year we collected “real stories” of families trying to secure child care. These stories are being compiled and a report will be sent to every MLA and to organizations we have worked with, as well as to each Club. We plan to attend a session of the Legislature and, through the Speaker, have our report acknowledged. Discussions with MLAs will follow.

It is difficult to ascertain how effective our work has been in affecting government action. We will maintain our interest in a universal child care model but we will also move to a different aspect of understanding child care’s role in our province. We will focus on the “Economic Value of Child Care to the BC Economy.” This will take us to meeting with economists, university researchers, large employer groups, Boards of Trade and organizations which look to the future. It will be a year of new contacts and much learning.

B) We will also expand our work to include a more significant consideration of Against Violence Against Women. Individual Clubs will continue the work they presently do in their communities.

Our recent AGM provided us with the opportunity to align ourselves with a national initiative called “Prevention of Violence in Canada.” Its focus on prevention is very practical as it calls upon every person to choose one way by which they can prevent violence. The concept met with much enthusiasm as we saw it as a way to move from personal commitment to carrying the concept to our Clubs and communities. BC West is sponsoring two sessions with the speaker so that our members and invited representatives from our communities can understand the concept and carry it forward to families and communities.

CFUW BC will be represented at a Town Hall Meeting for POVC in downtown Vancouver on May 25 so we will have an opportunity to describe our involvement with POVC. CFUW National has also signed on as a supporter of POVC, providing a way to reach a much larger community.

C) i) Education in BC also warrants some monitoring. The stakeholders in the Public School System are in a state of discord. A study of media coverage or meetings with leaders of various stakeholders would be beneficial to our members.

ii) Our major university has been experiencing difficulties around the abuse of female students. A study of the policies of the University and the Student Association would help us consider the practical values of these policies.

iii) Our scholarship contributions are substantial. We should have more contact with recipients and the universities as to our contributions. Our community should know what contributions we make in BC and across Canada. A committee to bring our successes to light is appropriate.

Note: To engage in this work we will need to have an Advocacy Chair who will oversee the three subcommittee areas. This will be a major change for CFUW in BC but the issues and the needs do warrant our attention. We are very capable of reporting on issues and our membership would certainly benefit from the information that comes their way.

**CFUW Profile**

Two points come to mind. One, many people still do not know who we are. Secondly, not all Clubs have a plan to remedy the situation.

Many activities have been undertaken. We make very good presentations to our elected representatives and we have good understanding of social issues. They need to be intensified. We do not fare as well when it comes to spreading what we know to our communities where our profile should be noticed.

We attend events and meetings, write reports, attend and take part in local forums, yet we may not be seen and heard as CFUW.

Our websites do not always state what we believe, what we do and how people can contact us. We often have to fight a battle to get coverage in the local newspapers or even on radio or television. We don’t often display our banners or wear identifying logos.

Perhaps we are just those “conservative” Canadians we hear about. I would rather see us more visible and vocal about CFUW and what we do as an organization. Perhaps these phrases can help to create a plan: “become known in your community”, “be seen, be heard” and “present ourselves as the voice of CFUW.”

**Communications**

There are many aspects of communication used by our Clubs and executives. It is quite easy for protocols to be missed and messages to miss their intended readers. The following describes many of our practices regarding correspondence, representing CFUW policy and the content and organization of our websites. Following will be a recommendation to review and revise our Communication Practices.

Protocols: Correspondence and Speaking on Behalf of CFUW

1. Each level of CFUW, Club, Provincial, and National has its own scope of communication.
2. E mails with “Club Members” in the address should reach each member.
3. All correspondence and discussion should be non-partisan.
4. We speak to CFUW policy only.
5. BC Council and Clubs should not receive information from political parties.
6. Duplication of correspondence to persons or organizations should not occur.
7. The use of the cc copy is helpful to keep other people informed.

Web Sites and Facebook:

1. All postings must go through the Communications Chair.
2. Appropriate content should be established by the Club.
3. Privacy is a key concern.
4. Updated and current information is needed.
5. Ease of use by members should be present.
6. Training of membership is needed.

With this many considerations, which need to function smoothly, an updating and review is recommended. The review will be discussed and undertaken early in September by BC Council. Our Clubs will carry on from there.

**Conclusion:**

From a personal perspective, it is a delight to work with the RDs, BC Council and the Club Presidents. They are part of an outstanding team.

The Clubs are our strength. Their effort, leadership and cooperative members are to be commended.

We will continue to work as effective Clubs and a cooperative provincial group to create a strong voice for CFUW in BC and Canada.

# Fran Leggett,

# VP Prairies

**Membership**

* Work with the three Regional Directors in their efforts to support Club recruitment and retention. This will be a priority next year after the AGM and hearing ideas presented there to increase our effectiveness
* Promote that CFUW is open to and welcomes all women. I have been promoting this and talked about this at the AGM in Saskatchewan
* Attend AGMs to speak and promote the National organization and also Club meetings
* Attend Saskatchewan’ AGM however it was the same time as the Alberta meeting. I had very short notice for the Manitoba meeting so I was unable to do this. I have encouraged the provinces to have separate times for meeting which Saskatchewan is considering

**Profile**

* Promote the CFUW biennium theme ``The Power of Women Working Together”- this has been promoted by the RD’s
* Encourage the RD’s to promote articles to be written for local newspapers by Clubs. This was raised at the Saskatchewan meeting; easier in smaller communities
* Encourage the review of websites, Club materials for current, accurate information. Madeline and I worked on the Alberta site during our meetings. The Saskatchewan council is considering starting one

**Advocacy**

* Work with the Club Presidents, advocacy groups and regional advocacy committees (if present) to further the CFUW policies at a local, regional and national level
* Work with the CFUW advocacy committee on national issues
* Support the three Regional Directors to encourage Club involvement in advocacy.
* Provide opportunities for Clubs to share and be recognized for their actions on local, provincial, national, international issues at the AGM’s
* Encourage Saskatchewan and Manitoba to have a regional advocacy committee
* Saskatchewan had a session at the AGM on setting up questions for the Federal candidates. There was also a discussion about the resolution process.

**Scholarships/Fellowships**

* Promote and highlight the importance of the scholarships and fellowships
* Actively encourage the Clubs to support the CFUW 100 year’s scholarship.

**Sustainability**

* Assist and support the Regional Directors in their work with Clubs
* Set up conference calls SKYPE, GoToMeeting to discuss issues (ongoing goal)
* Encourage Strategic Planning for succession planning locally, provincially help facilitate if needed. This has been discussed with Madeline and was a topic of discussion at the Saskatchewan AGM.
* Participate on the CFUW Board through teleconferences, committee work
* Encourage the regions to review their Bylaws so they are in sync with the National bylaws. Alberta is going to work on their Bylaws this year, Saskatchewan recently updated theirs.

**Brenda Robertson,**

**VP Ontario**

**Membership**

* Participated in IFUW webinar on membership September
* Attended Anniversaries for CFUW Niagara Falls, CFUW Kanata, CFUW Hamilton
* Attended the Ontario East Regional Gathering hosted by CFUW Belleville and District
* Attended IWD events, Culture of Sexual Violence, networked with speakers to make contact with Deputy Police Chief, Sexual Assault Centre, ER Nurse, Assistant Crown Attorney
* Participated in community organized event ‘On the Bridge’ to promote a focus on women’s equality/equity

**Profile**

* Assisted with development of a scroll up Banner for Ontario Council
* Supported, through financial assistance, the Zoomer showcase of CFUW in October. Sent out thank you cards for Ontario Central members involved.
* Presented an elevator speech when speaking with prospective new members

**Advocacy**

* Meetings with OC Advocacy Chairs, four Teleconferences/meeting
* Co-ordinated three Standing Committee meetings with Advocacy Chairs
* Prepared OC Club Advocacy packages for September
* Wrote letters to provincial representatives, Premier, Ministers
* OC Alerts and advocacy updates sent out to Clubs
* Participated on CFUW National Advocacy committee meetings
* Update Tracking of Clubs and Issues
* Communication ongoing with OC Advocacy committee
* Reviewed Mental Health Book list from CFUW Oakville made available to Clubs
* Working on a partnership with U of Western Barb MacQuarrie on Make It Our Business
* Training for members
* Reviewed the Early Childhood Education Report 2014 from the Atkinson Foundation
* Reviewed Report from the provincial government on the Child and Family Service Act.
* Attended CFUW Kitchener-Waterloo meeting on Human Trafficking
* Attended CFUW Guelph special event-Forum on Early Learning and Child Care
* Two meetings at Queen’s Park, January 22, February 19 on Human Trafficking
  + January meeting with policy advisors from Premier’s Office, Feb. meeting with Attorney General and policy advisors

**Letters and Briefs**

* OC Response sent concerning the 8th Canada-Ontario Agreement on Great Lakes Water Quality and Ecosystem Health to Great Lakes Office of the Ministry of the Environment
* OC signed onto a letter prepared by Environmental Defence about the same Agreement.
* Letter sent to Premier Wynne regarding 16 and 17 year old youth accessing child care services
* OC Response sent to Ontario government Poverty Reduction Strategy, Raising our Potential
* Letter to Premier Wynne requesting an Ontario-wide Action Plan on combating Human Trafficking and asking for a meeting
* OC Brief sent on the 5 year review of the Child and Family Service Act
* OC Response sent on Consultations on the Ontario curriculum for Health and Physical Education
* Reviewed the Early Childhood Education Report 2014 from the Atkinson Foundation
* Advocacy materials sent out to Clubs on Ontario Advocacy issues
* Two meetings at Queen’s Park, January 22, February 19 on Human Trafficking
  + January meeting with policy advisors from Premier’s Office, Feb. meeting with
  + Attorney General and policy advisors
* OC Response sent to provincial consultations on Ontario Retirement Pension Plan
* OC Response on the re-introduction of the Great Lakes Protection Act
* OC was a signatory with the Great Lakes Protection Act Alliance submission regarding Bill 66 proposed Great Lakes Protection Act
* Meeting at Queen’s Park with Policy Advisor from Ministry of Education on Early Learning and Child Care
* Teleconferences
* Prepared/Chaired OC Advocacy Teleconference/ meetings (4)
* Participated in viewing 2 Webinars Campaign 2000, 25/5, Poverty Reduction Strategy Aug. 26, Sept 4
* Participated in CFUW National Advocacy Teleconference meetings

**Scholarships/Fellowship**

* Supported Clubs in their fundraisers for scholarships and through donating to memorials.
* Shared information on the Charitable Trust and the 100th Anniversary Scholarship

**Sustainability**

* Prepared and chaired OC Advocacy Committee planning meeting
* OC Finance meetings
* Completed Service Ontario paperwork identifying the new OC Board
* Prepared and Chaired four OC Board meetings and three Standing Committee meetings
* Assisted with seven Dates & Data and News from OC Newsletters
* Prepared OC Club presidents’ leadership workshop packages
* Frequent communication with Regional Directors and Board members
* Frequent communication with Clubs re: Insurance inquiries
* Contacted Ontario West Clubs re: position of Regional Director, position filled
* Frequent communication with LAC Chair for OC AGM Ottawa 2015
* Prepared updates for OC Executive Manual and sent to Board members
* Revised 3 OC Executive Manuals for Board members
* Assisted RD coordinator with updating of RD Toolkit
* Participated in OC Finance meeting
* Reviewed Fall Gathering Budgets and info submitted
* Gathered and Compiled VP Ontario Budget Forecasting to end of December, then from January to April
* Ontario Host secured for CFUW AGM 2016 Host Club St. Catherine’s
* Teleconferences
* Guest on RD Teleconference November re: Training: RD Toolkit
* Participated on CFUW Board Teleconferences
* Participated on CFUW Governance Teleconferences
* Chaired OC Regional Directors’ teleconference
* Teleconference CFUW Orangeville and District in planning OC AGM 2016.

**Brenda Shanahan,**

**Vice President Québec**

**Chair of Quebec Provincial Council of CFUW Clubs**

**Advocacy-Défense d’intérêts**

**Quebec Council**

* Co-ordinated Club and Council letter campaign to PM Harper re Therese Casgrain award (July 2014)
* Co-ordinated Club and Council letter campaign to PM Harper and Quebec PM Couillard re Murdered and Missing Aboriginal Women (August 2015)
* Led Council Education committee with mandate to explore actions Quebec Council and member Clubs can support aboriginal women and girls’ education (September 2015-ongoing)
* Supported Clubs with following actions:
  + Sherbrooke & District is working with Champlain College to help aboriginal students apply for national scholarships. They also supplied food cards for students.
  + Sherbrooke & District participated in the 25th Polytechnique Memorial with the Women’s Center
  + Three Clubs donate money and/or clothing, etc. to local women’s shelters
  + UWC Montreal participated in the Centraide March of 1,000 Umbrellas, the Sisters in Spirit Vigil, and the 25th Polytechnique Memorial.
  + UWC Montreal initiated the CFUW request to reinstate the Therese Casgrain Award, sent letters to the Quebec Ministry of Health, nominated the Montreal Council Woman of the Year Award winner, and circulated letter on school board voter registration
  + Lakeshore geared it meetings to speakers on topics related to CFUW Resolutions (Cyber Bullying, Mental Health and Non-traditional Roles for Women) with meetings open to the public.

**Scholarship/Fellowships and Donations (total $97,500 during 2014-15)**

NOTE: Quebec Council has collected $994 for 100th Anniversary Fund as of April 2015 with goal of collecting a total of $2500 to disburse to the 100th Anniversary Scholarship committee prior to 2019.

* Quebec English Clubs (4) donated a total of $48,500 in scholarships and bursaries. Montreal South Shore also donated $500 to the CFUW Charitable Trust.
* In addition, Clubs and their Interest Groups donated approximately $18,500 to community groups and national charities (Ex: Several women’s shelters, Native Women’s Center, Association for the Intellectually Handicapped, Black youth center, Cancer hospice, Steven Lewis Foundation)
* Fundraising includes:
  + Sherbrooke and District: summer sale with books, food and silent auction, donations from Interest Groups
    - South Shore: Book Sale, small raffles at meetings
    - Montreal Inc.: Silent Auction and Annual Members’ Giving Campaign
    - Lakeshore: Public Concert, Games Day, raffles and sale of books at meetings
  + Quebec French Club (1): AFDU’s Foundation handed out $30,000 to 18 deserving young women at their bursary ceremony at Université Laval on March 13. The honorary president of this prestigious event was Nathalie Pratte, forester and president of Nature Conservancy Canada. Bursaries were awarded to undergraduate, masters and doctoral students as well as one postdoctoral fellow

**Sustainability**

* Lead the Quebec Council Executive members, working as a team, and providing support. Review of archives and budgeting process.
* Assist and support the Regional Directors in their work with Clubs. Support as required.
* Encourage Strategic Planning for Succession planning locally, provincially and nationally. Support as required.
* Support Clubs in crisis/struggling, through visits and other communications. Support as required.
* Work with Quebec LAC for the AGM 2015. Priority in 2014-15- Quebec LAC well organized- am providing volunteer womanpower!
* Participate on the CFUW Board through teleconferences, committee work in furthering the goals of CFUW. Participated in History Committee (Book project in particular) and attended meetings to best of ability.

**Special Mention re one of our members**

Carol Mooney, past president of CFUW Sherbrooke and District, received the Governor-General’s Caring Canadian Award from his Excellency the Right Honorable David Johnston at Rideau Hall on April 13, 2015.This award recognizes individuals who volunteer their time to help others and to build a smarter and more caring nation.

**Grace Hollett**

**Vice President Atlantic**

**Membership**

* At ARC AGM Oct 2014 profiled Club Membership Services, the work of the Membership Committee, national awards and grants to ARC Clubs.
* Summarized Presidents’ Networking Session Report from National AGM 2014 for issues Presidents selected for follow-up in at 2014 ARC AGM.
* Continued work (with RD participation) on concerns of individual Club presidents. (E.g. Tax deductions for CFUW fees, Breakdown of CFUW fees, history of CFUW advocacy on Gun Control, IFUW issues, Dalhousie Dental students, reassignment of duties of VP Communications/Governance, Resolutions, Club Constitutions)
* Encouraged Clubs to use innovative methods in membership recruitment.
* Visited CFUW Charlottetown for their 60th anniversary, spoke on “Bold Visions for CFUW” and strategized on increasing membership.
* With RDs/Club Presidents, organized visitation to all 13 Clubs with CFUW President for October 2015.

**Profile**

* Found a new web-manager, conducted a needs assessment and got a commitment from Presidents to submit items. The new website is operational.
* Wrote article and facilitated Atlantic Club’s submissions to IFUW Bibliography of Club Histories.
* Working with Coalition Against Violence Avalon East to increase CFUW’s visible profile among its 40 member groups and plan to extend this process in the Atlantic region. Included CFUW materials in White Van VAW project.
* Encouraged members and the public to subscribe to CFUW publications.

**Advocacy**

* Wrote Atlantic Premiers urging development of an action plan on VAW, the NL Premier asking to have the Family Violence Intervention Court reinstated, (and later to acknowledge the announcement that the Court will be reinstated and expanded and worked with local Club’s Issues and Resolutions Committee.
* Wrote Dalhousie President, and Head of Dental school re misogynist actions of Dental students. Reviewed other submissions. Monitoring situation.
* Promoted the use of the Advocacy package sent by National office.
* Encouraged analysis and consideration of alternate formats for ARC AGM 2105, and worked with Halifax Club who developed an advocacy themed, expanded program for October 2015.

**Scholarships/Fellowships**

* Promoted the CFUW Charitable Trust Fellowships at ARC AGM 2104.
* Reviewing Survey New Beginning for scholarship fundraising ideas and Encouraging ARC members to share current scholarship funding plans.
* Chaired publicity for CFUW St. John’s Book Sale and ensured CFUW (locally and nationally) is associated with education/scholarships/outreach. Wrote article connecting PSA for fundraisers to membership drives.

**Sustainability**

* Promoted membership on national committees and study groups
* Surveyed, obtained information and quotes on liability insurance but delayed further action pending investigation of a national CFUW insurance plan.
* Participated in Board and other CFUW related meetings.
* Encouraged Clubs to explore alternate methods of Club governance when needed.

**Fiorenza Albert-Howard,**

**Vice President Finance**

**Chair of the Charitable Trust**

See Fiorenza’s reports in the Finance Book and the Charitable Trust Annual Report

**Teri Shaw**

**VP Advocacy**

As always the bulk of advocacy work is developed, prepared and presented or distributed by the National Office, and therefore the summary of actions for 2014-2015 will be found within the Executive Director’s report. Any strength that we might have is due not only to the power of our membership, but also to Robin Jackson, Executive Director and to Tara Fischer, Advocacy Coordinator, writer extraordinaire. These two are the ones who actually put into action what the rest of us think might be an excellent idea. There is that lovely line “the wind beneath our wings”, and they are that for our advocacy work.

**Advocacy**

* Standing Committee on Advocacy meetings were held quarterly in September and December 2014, February and May 2015.
* A task force of members from the Standing Committee was created to follow-up on recommendations from the 2012-2014 Standing Committee. The project chosen was the creation and production of an online Advocacy Manual, bringing together and, where necessary, rationalizing the advocacy training material that we currently have. This is currently in process.
* Meetings of members of the Board’s Advocacy Steering Committee held in July, September 2014 and February 2015,with constant electronic contact. It is through this that direction is provided for the work of the National Office.
* Meetings were held with the Chairs of the sub-committees of Education and Status of Women, along with the Early Learning and Child Care Study Group
* The Chair of the Aboriginal Study Group prepared newsletters throughout the year, which were circulated in CFUW News and Updates.
* As part of the President’s Operation Connect, conference calls have been held with chairs of Issues groups throughout the country. These will continue throughout the summer and fall. There are two aims: to learn what resources and help the Clubs could use/are using, and to explain what projects the National Board/Office are working on.

**Membership**

* Two projects for individual members have been studied, and currently are in development:
* Extending the concept of National Study Groups to other topics that might be of interest to members
* Creation of a webinar series of issues of interest

**Presentations to Club members**

* Advocacy Minutes, AGM 2014
* Teri Shaw, VP Advocacy, Thanks to Clubs
* Jeanne Sarson and Linda MacDonald, CFUW Truro, Non-State Actor Torture
* Sheila Clarke, CFUW Stratford, Integrated Public Transportation
* Workshop, Club Advocacy – Locally and Beyond
* Anne Douglas, CFUW Oakville, A Community Partnership
* Janet Willwerth, RD Nova Scotia, Advocacy in Small Clubs
* Elizabeth Gautschi, UWC Vancouver, Life of a Resolution to Policy and Beyond
* Feb. 2015 Teri Shaw, VP Advocacy and Cheryl Hayles, VP International, CFUW Brantford, National Initiative on Violence
* Articles for Press Agency

**Public Profile**

* Attended the United Nations Commission on Status of Women as part of the self-funded CFUW delegation

**Sustainability**

* Meetings with Regional Directors in November and January discussing the annual fall advocacy package and concerns about advocacy.
* Governance Committee, as member prepared the proposals related to both resolutions and the Vice-President Education

**Karen Dunnett**

**VP Membership**

I am deeply grateful to my committee task force members and national staff for sharing their time and skills to complete our jobs and continue CFUW’s efforts to support the Clubs and their valuable work.

**Membership**

* Developed a Member Value Statement and ‘elevator speech’ pitches
* Developed and organized Club questionnaire on new Brand Tools; presented report on summary results to the Board
* Organized and collated information from membership follow-up teleconferences (fall & spring); membership recruitment & retention information to be developed into useful formats for Clubs
* Reviewed existing membership materials and their web location
* Reviewed updated Webinar service options
* Encouraged the collecting of Club stories, event info, videos for sharing via various means – website, AGM, etc.
* Administered the Club Membership, Special and AGM Small Club Grant awards
* Reviewed the development of and resource requirements for other membership categories (e.g. MAL optimization, on-campus Clubs)
* Development of toolkit for new Clubs (‘Club in a Bag”)

**Profile**

* Initiated a new award to showcase the Club work on the VAW national initiative with ‘press release’ promotion to IFUW, our affiliated organizations and to social media
* Promoted the use of the CFUW front page to feature CFUW Club stories, & the AGM
* Reviewed discussion paper on “New Channels to promote CFUW”
* Collection of media material from Clubs on promotion of Club meetings, fundraisers & community event collaborations to be organized and made available online.
* Continuation of setting up more Club websites through the National site

**Advocacy**

* Reviewed the National Initiative on Violence against Women as ongoing issue & wrote a press agency article on it.

**Scholarships/Fellowships**

* Display of Fellowship information and recent recipients at Atlantic Regional Council AGM

**Sustainability**

* As a member of the board, prepared and participated in all board meetings.
* Worked in the development of the AGM presidents’ workshop and membership town hall formats & materials in collaboration with Pres., RD group chair, and national office.
* As a co-chair of the Membership Task Force, organized the work plan, research and meetings to fulfill its mandate.
* As member of the HR Committee, participated in the committee’s activities.
* Provided press agency article on benefits of being a CFUW Member
* Wrote article for the Communicator on the Membership Task Force work
* Participated in Advocacy Committee call re National Initiative on VAW
* Participated in RD teleconference on Membership support

**Cheryl Hayles**

**Vice President International/Coordinator for International Relations**

**Chair, History Committee and 100th Anniversary Committee**

**Membership**

* Responded to members’ questions and comments on the IFUW name change process.
* February 25, 2015 presentation to the CFUW Brantford Club with Teri Shaw, VP Advocacy, on the topic of “Preventing and Responding to Violence Against Women and Girls Locally, Nationally and Internationally leading up to IWD”.
* Co-led with National President, Doris Mae Oulton, 20 CFUW delegates to UNCSW59 in New York from March 7-14, 2015. Compiled NCSW59 debrief document, which is a summary of the CFUW delegates’ experiences in New York. Follow up International Advocacy initiatives were prioritized and will be actioned over the 2015-16 year.
* May 12, 2015 co-presented with Heather Foss to the CFUW St. Catharines Club on UNCSW59.

**Profile**

* Chaired the International Relations Committee and the 100th Anniversary Committee. Both committees are working toward organizational goals. Appreciation to Bev Boudreau for designing the lapel pins for national, provincial awards and general membership purchase. In this family of design are the profiles of 10 girls from different ethnic backgrounds, to be used on the logo and pop-up poster by the 100th Anniversary Scholarship Sub-Committee. The poster of the first National President of CFUW will be introduced in Quebec City at the AGM.

**Advocacy**

* Worked with the Afghan Interest Group to finalize the workshop for the 2015 AGM.
* In committee, established the International Relations Committee terms of reference, CFUW International Relations Policy, International Women’s Day terms of reference, IWD grant application form and Evaluation Tool, International Relations Committee Award Criteria and Evaluation Tool and updated articles and By-Laws relevant to the aforementioned.

**Scholarship/Fellowships**

* To date, $30,750 of the $100,000 has been raised for the 100th Anniversary Scholarship Fund.

**Sustainability**

* The recent name change from IFUW to GWI marked a significant shift for an organization that is almost 100 years old. This prompted CFUW members to ask questions about the operations of the IFUW and to examine the governance model and processes that engage NFAs. Since only a wet baby appreciates change; in significant system change processes such as this, best practices dictate engaging stakeholders and providing opportunity for input.
* Engagement and transparency were weak in the IFUW name change procedure. In response to these serious concerns CFUW presented a motion to postpone, followed by a Point of Order on the issue of IFUW ignoring the constitution. While neither of these motions were successful, the response has provided insights, and more questions. The urgent IFUW rebranding process announced in November 2014, continues to disregard the democratically adopted rules embedded in the IFUW Constitution and Bylaws. As of April 27, 2015 IFUW is now known as Graduate Women International.

**Kathryn Wilkinson,**

**Vice President Communications and Governance – (proposed Education)**

**Governance**

* The Board Governance Committee, chaired by Fran Leggett, has proposed changes to the Articles and Bylaws concerning this position, VP International Relations and resolutions. The proposed change is coming forward to the AGM for ratification.

**Communications**

* The annual communications plan was developed by the National Office, and adopted by the Board. It covers publications, social media, press releases, webinars, conference calls, printed material and other items needed for communication.

**Fellowships and Awards**

* Organized teleconference with Fellowships and Awards stakeholders to discuss responsibilities, organization and reporting.
* Wrote article about the CFUW Mississauga scholarship program for Press Agency
* Working with the National Office to produce a Fellowship and Awards and scholarship info-graphic poster for the AGM – this will be made available to Clubs after the AGM.
* Attended the Fellowships and Awards Committee annual meeting in Ottawa
* Worked with Carol Hare on powerpoint about Fellowships/Awards and the Charitable trust

**Lifelong Learning**

* Working with the Advocacy team to extend National Study Groups, including a number related to education.
* Working with the Advocacy team to create a series of webinars for individual members.

**Education**

* Meetings with chair of the Early Learning and Childcare Study Group
* Assisting with the Early Learning and Childcare research

**Public Profile**

* Attended the United Nations Commission on Status of Women as a member of the CFUW delegation.
* Attended ‘The Early Years: Laying the Foundations for Life Conference’ hosted by the Association of Education Researchers of Ontario (AERO) and the Early Years Education Ontario Network (EYEON).
* Registered with a number of educational groups/networks and using these as a resource for posting on social media.
* Spoke to CFUW Mississauga International Affairs about education for girls in Tanzania.

**REGIONAL DIRECTORS**

**Barbara DuMoulin**

**Regional Director Vancouver Island**

**Membership**

* Build and strengthen membership to sustain a healthy organization and continue our advocacy and educational support and initiatives
* Encouraged Clubs to use the brochures supplied by National to raise CFUW profile and employ other strategies to increase and retain membership. Some Clubs were very proactive and enjoyed an increase; others struggled. For some, retention seems to be more of an issue than attracting new members.

**Profile**

* Raise the public profile of CFUW so that our ongoing and significant contributions to Canadian society are fully recognized.
* All Clubs made use of local newspapers and social media to advertise events. All hosted events in partnership with other community groups. I am impressed by the scope of their programs and activities.
* Several of the Clubs now have a CFUW group or page on Facebook or are discussing it. The new branding has been enthusiastically adopted and is widely used.

**Advocacy**

* Increase the effectiveness of CFUW’s advocacy role and extend our impact through partnerships.
* Most Clubs had or now have issue and advocacy groups. Most include advocacy news from National in their newsletters. Victoria is presenting a climate change resolution this year.
* Partnerships: All of the Vancouver Island Clubs are partnering with other organizations in their work on the BC Poverty initiative as well as National’s anti-violence against women campaign. There has been a significant increase in partnership and cosponsoring of community events.

**Scholarships/Fellowships**

* Support Clubs in their scholarship programs and strengthen the effectiveness of national fellowship programs
* Several Clubs have already committed to contributing to or creating a 2019 scholarship.
* All Clubs have strong scholarship programs.

**Sustainability**

* Build organizational capacity at the Board, committee, regional and Club level to maintain CFUW’s ability to reach goals.
* Set a goal for each Club in the region to have links on their websites for the Vancouver Island Clubs as well as to National, BC Council and IFUW. Some do but others are still revising their websites. Saanich Peninsula has a new website; Cowichan Valley is creating theirs. Clubs are sharing newsletters and invitations to events by email. There was great success in coordinating events for IWD. Saanich Peninsula is hosting the BC Council AGM.
* All Clubs participated in teleconferences. We tried Skype but reverted to teleconferences, perhaps some are not comfortable with video conferencing yet.
* Filling executive positions at the Club level remains an ongoing problem.

**Ruth Mellor**

**Regional Director BC East/Central/North (Interior)**

**Membership**

* Clubs attempts to increase or at least maintain membership utilizing the ideas from the membership teleconferences and round table seem to have had some success. 4 of the 5 Clubs in BC Interior have increased memberships and the other stayed the same. Have not yet contacted those who indicated an interest in re-forming a Club in Kamloops
* Concern about Club with only 12 members is still an issue. Club is still active, but needs more members trying to support

**Advocacy**

* Encouraged Clubs to get stories on Childcare issues for the CFUW BC Council Child Advocacy committee
* Have had some requests from Clubs with info on new National resolutions passed
* Continued to advise Clubs on the purpose of resolutions
* Had some conversations with Clubs about process

**Scholarship/Fellowships**

* Encouraged Clubs to interact more with scholarship winners, report back, invite their mothers to a meeting, etc. More work needed on my part to follow through with this.

**Sustainability**

* Encouraged Clubs to try new formats, meeting times. Seems to help with new membership as well as informing existing members.

**CFUW profile**

* Encouraged Clubs (and myself) to use new masthead.
* Encouraged Clubs to have up-to-date websites- often difficult to have person with expertise within Club
* Encouraged use CFUW instead of whole name-better for branding- very important to keep reminding for use in brochures, news releases, etc.
* Encouraged wearing of name tags and identify Club members when at community functions some Clubs using CFUW buttons, or scarves

**Partnerships**

* Encouraged partnerships by Clubs in my region- eg staffing Salvation Army Kettle, and taking part in Adopt-a-road program or visiting various organizations in their community who help disadvantaged women to name a few

**Madeline Kalbach**

**Regional Director Alberta**

CFUW has five strategic aims: Membership, Public Profile, Advocacy, Scholarships/Fellowships and Sustainability. CFUW Clubs in Alberta have used these five strategic aims to help expand their membership and enhance the CFUW experience.

The National initiative on Violence against Women is one of the areas where several Alberta Clubs have excelled in terms of making their communities aware of the issue and the importance of doing something about it, particularly with respect to Aboriginal women in Alberta and Canada as a whole.

Every CFUW Club in Alberta supports scholarships at our Universities for both graduate students and undergraduates. In 2014-15 scholarships and bursaries totaling over $68,000 were handed out. CFUW/Edmonton gave out $52,000 in scholarship money.

Literacy is also an area where we are making a difference in Alberta. Calgary Reads is one of the best literacy initiatives in Calgary and Edmonton. Our Clubs support Calgary Reads through its volunteer program, and in addition, through financial support.

Lethbridge put forward a successful provincial resolution on Fracking. CFUW/Edmonton developed a national resolution on neonicotinoids, that will be presented at the CFUW 2015 AGM in Quebec City.

Assisting women in need is also a major initiative by Alberta Clubs. Partnerships were forged with community groups. This action not only helped women and girls, but also raised our public profile in Alberta’s communities.

**Margaret Hendry**

**Regional Director Saskatchewan**

All of Saskatchewan’s five Clubs have had a busy year of activities. With Club meetings with speakers and partnerships in the community they have made their mark. CFUW Prince Albert held two meetings concerning local health and education programs. Partnering with J.M. Cuelennaere Library enabled them to have author and researcher, James Daschuk present a talk at the library giving background to his award winning book Clearing the Plains to a packed theatre.

Saskatoon had a series of speakers on Adult Literacy, Housing First Program and climate change. CFUW Yorkton had a program on mental health and alternative energy sources. CFUW Regina program had speakers from the Immigrant Women’s Centre, Regina Police Service, and Regina Food Bank. CFUW Estevan concentrated on their fundraiser for scholarships. All of the Clubs fundraise for scholarships and contribute to students attending university and other post-secondary institutions.

Saskatchewan Clubs have moved into the community. Donations have been made to food banks, women’s shelters and a centre for children with complex medical conditions. Some have formed partnerships to promote the work of other organizations and have benefitted from support for CFUW programs such as space in a Prince Albert Mall for book sales, storage space for books and meeting spaces.

Four of our Clubs had International Women’s Day programs. Prince Albert Club president had an article in the Prince Albert Herald.

The Clubs have all responded to the Missing and Murdered Women campaign. CFUW Saskatoon responded to a press report about the treatment of a woman arrested and held over the weekend, with a letter to the Police Board that resulted in a newspaper article, interviews on local radio and response from the board to investigate conditions. All of the Clubs have taken time to discuss areas of concern in their communities and begin steps to take action.

As Regional Director, I have been able to attend two significant celebrations this year. Last October I was able to attend the 60th Anniversary of CFUW Yorkton and in May 2015 I attended the 100th anniversary of CFUW Regina. Although the world has changed since these Clubs began there is still work for our organization and on both occasions there was no doubt that these groups of women are up to the challenge.

Saskatchewan Council met at the end of April during a blizzard. Fran Leggett, VP Prairies was able to attend and we were glad to have her share information with us. The members felt they gained a different perspective. The morning session was a business meeting. After lunch we had speaker, Lisa Abbott, a young First Nations lawyer and also a Liberal candidate in the federal election. She spoke on the importance of education for First Nations people and for women. Our afternoon workshop was on creating possible questions that we would like to ask candidates in the upcoming election. We finished with a roundtable discussion where Fran Leggett’s help was invaluable.

Several of Saskatchewan Clubs have been able to have banners made. Work continues on having websites and there seems a need for a provincial Saskatchewan Council website so that is a project for the near future. Although membership continues to be a concern our Clubs though small are vibrant and active.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Fran Myles**

**Regional Director Manitoba**

**Membership**

* Personally contacted women who might be interested in the Clubs by handing out business cards in Winnipeg and Portage

**Profile**

* Made a presentation to 120 business women at the Portage UnGala
* Had national office set up a website for the Portage Club
* Chaired the spring meeting of the Manitoba Council
* Attended a reception hosted by Winnipeg for the new national president

**Advocacy**

* Encouraged the Portage Club to partner with the local women's shelter to reinstate a ceremony of remembrance for murdered or missing women
* Discussed the resolutions

**Scholarships**

* Portage Club provided an award for the speech arts at the local festival in addition to the bursary to a high school student
* Winnipeg provided several scholarships

**Kaarina Tulisalo**

**RD Ontario North**

My report follows the five strategic aims of CFUW.

**Membership**

* Developed Club membership profiles
* Encouraged Clubs to meet the national target of a 1% increase in membership
* Participated in 2 teleconferences on membership strategies
* Circulated the New Members Award Application Form
* Responded to questions on the membership fee
* Circulated the document on Membership Dues CFUW –IFUW

**Update:** Ontario North,as a region, registered 439 members up from 417 the previous year and exceeded the National target of a 1% increase.

**Public Profile**

* Assisted Clubs in the use of the new masthead and branding tools
* Encouraged Clubs to develop a website
* Ensured that all Club promotional materials, brochures and websites were updated and used the current criteria and terminology
* Increased public awareness of CFUW and the Club by attending as many community events as possible, hosting community events, encouraging the use of websites, social media, newspapers, CFUW communications and publications
* Advised the development of community partnerships

**Advocacy**

* Surveyed Clubs on the structure of advocacy committees and advocacy initiatives
* Promoted the National Initiative and the Resolutions
* Encouraged Clubs to attend the AGMs , Fall Gatherings, Standing Committee Meetings
* Assisted Clubs in completing applications for advocacy and Special Project awards
* Drew attention to submissions made to National and Provincial Governments
* Encouraged Clubs to reach out into the community and support existing programs on issues such as violence against women, abuse, bullying, youth in care, poverty, environmental concerns, elections and others

**Update:** All Clubs participated in some form of advocacy. They functioned with either an advocacy committee, chair or through the President.

**Scholarships/Fellowships**

* Surveyed the Clubs on scholarships, bursaries, and other donations and fundraising methods
* Responded to request for information on the Charitable Trust and Fellowships
* Drew attention to the Scholarships and Donations survey on the membership site
* Encouraged Clubs to keep records of scholarship winners and track the progress of past winners.
* Promoted the fact that CFUW Clubs donated close to a million dollars in scholarships, bursaries and donations.

**Update:** Ontario North Clubs donated over $30,000.00 in scholarships, bursaries and other donations this year.

**Sustainability**

* Informed Clubs of assistance programs such as Club grants, loans, small Club teleconferences, website assistance, Operation Connect, awards programs, assistance from the national office and from Ontario Council
* Assisted Clubs having difficulties filling executive positions
* Completed the first round of Club visits and am beginning the second round of visits
* Conducted several “tele-chats” with each Club President and continued developing a Club profile for each
* Welcomed Club newsletters and minutes to add to the Club profile

**Update:** Ontario North Clubs are functioning well and full of energy and enthusiasm. The major concern has been the difficulty in filling executive positions.

It has been a pleasure to serve as the Regional Director for Ontario North and I look forward to serving again in 2015-16.

**Cheryl Ambrose**

**Regional Director Ontario West**

The 9 CFUW Ontario West Clubs range in size from fewer than 20 members to almost 250 members.

From east to west:

**CFUW Guelph**, celebrating 70 years, has 180 members. They have a strong Advocacy Committee that addresses Out of Poverty, ECE/childcare, with two emerging subgroups, one on Aboriginal issues and the other on equal representation with respect to gender (civic council and beyond). CFUW Guelph hosted a public Childcare Forum in February. Members sit on the Guiding Coalition (board) of Bridges out of Poverty, and the Club funded training of 2 new Certified *Bridges* Trainers.

**CFUW Cambridge,** a small but active Club with 3 presidents, held their 3rd scholarship fundraiser around IWD, with guest speaker Megan Lambe, from the region’s YWCA. Club members supported the 2014 National AGM in Waterloo, helping to develop connections among nearby Clubs.

**CFUW Kitchener Waterloo,** with 235 members, hosted the National AGM in 2014. Members organized a December 6th Memorial fundraiser Lunch with speaker Lee Maracle, who addressed VAW, specifically Aboriginal women. At the Club’s February General Meeting, Graham Hawkins, Strategic and Tactical Services, Criminal Intelligence Branch/Waterloo Regional Police Service, spoke about human trafficking in the Waterloo Region. The Club supports Aboriginal focused advocacy and continues to hold their annual book sale that enables the Club to support significant scholarships.

When I put out the call for a Club to host the 2015 Fall Gathering, **CFUW Stratford** gave it serious thought, but instead offered to host an Ontario Council AGM. We look forward to working with their members in getting up to speed on the requirements. This Club is still working hard with SWOTA (Southwestern Ontario Transportation Alliance), they commemorated victims of Montreal Massacre at a luncheon on Dec. 6th and held another successful Elizabethan Dinner fundraiser in April.

**CFUW St Thomas,** another small Club, has shown great enthusiasm by offering to host our 2015 Ontario West Fall Gathering, the first in 3 years for this region. This has been made possible by working collaboratively with other regional Clubs. ”Many hand makes light work.”

**CFUW London** is a small Club that is celebrating their 95th Anniversary in 2015 and is hoping to form collaborative connections with other community groups.

**CFUW Chatham/Kent,** is celebrating their 70th Anniversary this year. This small Club operates with a planning committee and continues to support Operation Good Start in collaboration with the local Children's Aid Society (CAS). This year, they provided 30 children with back-to-school wardrobes and other necessities.  CAS identified the neediest children and delivered the new clothes, toiletries and other materials them.

**CFUW Sarnia Lambton** has over 60 members, but electronic communication is not their strength.

And finally, **CFUW Windsor,** another small Club who successfully adopted a planning council rather than a full executive, commemorated the 14 women who were murdered on December 6th 1989 by raising funds for the CFUW 1989 École Polytechnique Commemorative Awards. They also published a detailed article in the December newsletter that focused on the movement toward stronger gun control that resulted from this unfortunate event, VAW and the recent changes in legislation.

We have so much to learn from one another as we move forward. 2015 is an election year and it offers opportunities and challenges as we continue to work for equality and human rights in our ever changing world.

**Deborah Harasym**

**Regional Director Ontario South**

Ontario South has enjoyed a very successful year. The overall health of our Clubs is evidenced in the many new initiatives undertaken by Clubs while continuing with our longer standing traditions like scholarship programs and interest groups. Enhanced membership strategies, broadened advocacy and outreach initiatives and the embrace of a new look for CFUW position us well for future success.

**Membership**

Membership continues to be a major challenge and focus for Ontario South. The long term viability and sustainability of our Clubs is dependent on retaining our existing members and recruiting new ones. The following outlines the key initiatives taken in OS in support of membership growth.

* November Teleconference call with all Club Presidents, focused on Membership
  + Material outlining potential growth strategies was sent to all Presidents in September and again in advance of the teleconference call,
  + During the call, Presidents shared the strategies they were using to attract and retain members, highlighting what was working and what was not,
  + The discussion was documented and distributed to all Ontario South Presidents for their ongoing use.
* Individual, in depth, telephone calls with Club Presidents in March and April
  + Membership numbers were reviewed and options for improvement were discussed, including strategies other Clubs had successfully implemented.
* A few examples of strategies utilized this year include:
  + A new member gathering with the Club Executive (Burlington and Oakville),
  + Invite a guest night (Oakville and Hamilton),
  + Utilizing greeters at monthly meetings (Brantford),
  + Membership competition (Milton),
  + Personal follow up calls to those late or not renewing (Hamilton) and
  + Providing CFUW promotional material to the general public in businesses and/or libraries etc. (Grimsby and Burlington).

**Advocacy, Outreach and Community Profile**

When members are asked about their advocacy initiatives, they tend to think of traditional advocacy i.e., meeting with local politicians and letter writing. While this is an important component of our advocacy efforts, not all Clubs are comfortable or interested in that activity. I have encouraged them to think about advocacy in a broader context. They are likely already engaged in activities that are having a positive impact on the lives of those living in their communities or elsewhere while enhancing the CFUW profile. Once involved in these broader activities, the move to include more traditional advocacy has the potential to be easier.

* I conducted a survey of all Clubs in January to determine what advocacy and/or outreach activities they are engaged in. This was further discussed and encouraged in the spring telephone interviews with the Club Presidents.
* Some of the more traditional initiatives undertaken by the OS Clubs this year include:
  + Meeting with local politicians (Burlington and Hamilton),
  + Joining with other like-minded organizations for a stronger voice (Burlington, Milton and Oakville with AWH -- Advancement of Women Halton),
  + Running meet the candidates nights for the municipal election (Brantford and Georgetown), for which both received considerable press coverage,
  + Participating in letter writing campaigns especially for murdered and missing women (many Clubs and individuals).
* A few of the non-traditional outreach activities included:
  + Supporting local women’s shelters and other women’s organizations with donations (Brantford, Hamilton, Milton, Burlington, Mississauga, Welland, Niagara Falls,),
  + Organizing, promoting and administering an event for another local organization, Nova Vita (Brantford for Women of Excellence Awards),
  + Supporting events sponsored by other organizations like Coldest Night of the Year, Halton Hills Cultural Symposium and International Women’s Day (Milton, Georgetown, Burlington),
  + Establishing and maintaining blogs promoting advocacy initiatives as well as other community events (Hamilton, Mississauga),
  + Establishing an issues group to look at housing for senior women (St. Catharines),
  + Celebrating a milestone by including other individuals from the community (Niagara Falls 90th anniversary tea).
* Clubs are increasingly aware of the potential of media or other promotional activity to enhance our profile in the community. They are encouraged to spread the word in any way possible. A few examples of their success include:
  + Contacting local media for coverage at meet the candidates nights (Brantford and Georgetown),
  + Providing promotional material in public places (Burlington),
  + Established blogs highlighting Club and public events (Hamilton, Mississauga).
  + The September Hub meeting of Club Presidents focused on the new CFUW Branding materials and external communications including the elevator speech. Most Clubs have now incorporated the new branding into their web sites, newsletters and stationary.

**Scholarships/Bursaries**

All Clubs in Ontario South grant scholarships and or bursaries to deserving young women in their community, usually through their foundation. This year the scholarships granted were in excess of $85,000 for this region. Additionally, Oakville and Mississauga made special donations to the CFUW Charitable Trust 100th anniversary fund totaling $11,200. In order to do this, Clubs are engaged in a broad variety of fundraising activity. The annual dues for some Clubs include a donation to their scholarship foundation. For many Clubs, the fundraiser is the highlight of their year. Some of the activity in support of scholarships this year were:

* Presidents attending the September Hub meeting had an opportunity to discuss their fundraising activity in an informal exchange,
* Scholarships/bursaries granted by Clubs and their associated fundraisers were a point of discussion during the telephone calls with all Presidents this spring. I shared information with Clubs about what or how other Clubs were doing who run similar fundraisers when possible.
* Fundraising activity this year included:
  + Authors Nights (Hamilton, Burlington),
  + A Fashion Show (Brampton),
  + Trivia Night (Brantford),
  + Book Sales (Georgetown, Grimsby, Milton, Welland),
  + A card party (Mississauga, Niagara Falls),
  + Dragon boat supporters (Oakville) and
  + A House Tour (St. Catharines).

**Sustainability**

The sustainability of Clubs is supported through new initiatives in membership, advocacy, outreach and scholarship. Clubs have been encouraged to try one new thing to improve their Club this year.

* A few of these activities include:
  + The many initiatives (above) to acquire new members and support existing ones.
  + Discussions with several Clubs regarding options for engaging members and considering flexible options at the Executive level. At this time two Clubs are using a team approach and at least three others are considering either Co-Presidents or an Executive Team.
  + Visits by the RD to Clubs (10 in 2014/15) reinforce the Club’s role as part of a larger Provincial, National and International body. The benefits of this association are valued by the membership especially when it comes to Advocacy. Our Advocacy initiatives, community outreach and scholarship programs differentiate CFUW from other local social organizations -- a benefit when recruiting new members.

**Pat Joyce**

**Regional Director Ontario Central**

**Membership**

* Received OC Grant to assist running of Zoomer Show Oct. 24/25
* Ran Zoomer show booth with 22 Volunteers
* Tracked number of new members
* 3 Clubs in Region with more than 10% rise in membership. Applying for National Awards
* Apply for National Special Project Award for the Region for Zoomer Show

**CFUW Profile**

* Bought new Banners and took to meetings
* Encouraged Clubs to use new branding and buy banners
* Etobicoke, Vaughan, Leaside, UWC North York have new banners
* Was interviewed by Etobicoke Guardian with a full page in Sept. issue (5 new members for Etobicoke)
* Had full page report on Zoomer Show published in Oct. Communicator
* Brought greetings to Clubs: Ajax, Aurora, Etobicoke, Leaside East York, Markham, North York, Scarborough, North Toronto, UWC Toronto, Toronto Caucus
* Run OC Leadership Workshop at OC AGM in May
* Assist with National Worksop at AGM in June
* Represented OC at Sustainability Conference

**Advocacy**

* Attended all OC Standing Committees
* Surveyed Clubs on Advocacy Activities
* Nominated Clubs for OC Advocacy Awards and Honorable Mentions
* Attended Feb. Breakfast hosted by Etobicoke For Ernestine’s Hostel
* Attended Ajax/Pickering/Scarborough lunch for Int.   
  Women’s Day
* Attended Int. Women’s Day Lunch hosted by UWC Toronto
* Check Club attendance at Standing Committees
* Scholarship/Fellowships:
* Attended Aurora Newmarket Bridge fund raising act.
* Attended Etobicoke Fund raiser
* Attended Toronto Caucus Dec. 6 event for Polytechnique National Scholarship
* Tracked scholarship activity of Clubs
* Attend National Shaw Festival Event in April

**Sustainability**

* Club Visits: Ajax/Pickering, Aurora Newmarket (2)Etobicoke, Leaside East York, Markham Unionville (2), North Toronto, North York, UWC Toronto, Vaughan (2) Toronto Caucus (2)
* Participate in RD Teleconferences
* Check Clubs websites
* Read Club Newsletters
* Forward RD Reports to Club Presidents
* Program chair on Etobicoke Ex.
* Answered requests from Clubs
* Used e-mails and phone calls to communicate
* Used Zoomer show to foster closer relationship with Clubs and Executives
* Organized Fall Meeting called Talk It Out for Nov. 7, 15 with round table discussions

**Sandy Thomson**

**Regional Director Ontario Huron**

**Membership:** Build and strengthen membership to sustain a healthy organization.

* Though hoping for an overall 3% increase in membership, the five Huron Clubs – Kincardine, Orangeville, Owen Sound, Saugeen and Southport – remain at a fairly steady state of membership with #287 members for this term.
* I attended all September membership meetings, demonstrating the “elevator speech” to encourage new members to join.
* CFUW Saugeen is celebrating 30 years in 2015.
* CFUW Southport is celebrating 25 years in 2015.

**Public Profile:** Raise the public profile of CFUW …

* All five Clubs have incorporated the new branding templates on their websites, in their newsletters and on their Facebook pages.

**Advocacy:** Increase the effectiveness of CFUW’s advocacy role and extend out impact through partnerships with each other and the community.

* CFUW Orangeville has partnered with the Dufferin County Cultural Resource Circle to host “Indigenous Women Rising” to raise public awareness of indigenous women – “Learning Canada’s History through Wampum diplomacy.”
* CFUW Southport continues to dominant the scene and headlines with their annual Dec. 6 vigil and presented to the local council for their support and attendance.
* CFUW Saugeen, in following up with their successful resolution of Plain Language, is working with the Local Literacy Quille to present a workshop.
* All five Clubs host activities in support of the National Violence Against Women initiative.
* All five Clubs participate in the resolutions discussions.

**Scholarship/Fellowships:** Encourage Clubs to continue scholarship programs…

* All five Clubs raise money for scholarships out of fundraising activities.
* CFUW Southport has raised additional funds through a member’s El Camino walk to sponsor a special scholarship in honor of their 25th year anniversary.

**Sustainability:** Build organizational capacity at the Board, committee, regional and Club level to maintain CFUW’s ability to reach goals.

* Two Clubs continue to send representatives to the Ontario Council (OC) Standing Committee meetings in Toronto three times per year.
* At least three Clubs will have presence at the OC AGM in Ottawa, May, 2015.
* CFUW Orangeville member serves as secretary on the Ontario Council Board.
* CFUW Southport member serves as a policy advisor to the Ontario Council.

**Leila Metcalf**

**Regional Director Ontario East**

**Membership**

Visits made to 6 of the 9 Clubs in Ontario East during the year: CFUW Kingston, Perth & District, Nepean and Ottawa (General Meetings) and Cornwall & District, Kanata and Ottawa (Annual General Meetings).

Discussions took place, in person and via telephone contact, on membership issues with Presidents of Clubs, particularly those where membership recruitment and retention are of concern.

**Profile**

I addressed the above-named Clubs’ General Meetings (open to the public). IWD events in the region were missed as I attended CSW59 in New York.

**Advocacy**

Club Presidents and members were encouraged in their advocacy work during each of my visits to Clubs’ General Meetings and in discussions with Presidents, and by the nominations of 5 of the 9 Ontario East Clubs for Ontario Council Advocacy Awards.

**Scholarships/Fellowships**

Presidents and Club members were congratulated on and encouraged in their fundraising initiatives for local scholarships and for their contributions to the Scholarship Trust during discussions or my meetings with them.

**Sustainability**

Communication with Clubs was maintained via emails, telephone calls, and visits. Particular communication with Local Arrangement Committees of 2014 Regional Fall Gathering hosted by CFUW Belleville & District and 2015 Ontario Council AGM hosted by CFUW-Ottawa. CFUW Kanata located to host next Regional Fall Gathering in 2016.

**Summary**

Much important work is being accomplished in our Clubs. I am constantly amazed by the commitment and resourcefulness of CFUW members as together we strive to make the world a better place for women and girls.

**Debbie Christiansen Stowe**

**Regional Director francophone**

**Directrice régionale Québec français**

AFDU Québec, is the only French language Club in CFUW/FCFDU. Over the past several years the Club has made a particular effort to promote access to education for young native women. The Club is also hosting the 2015 CFUW annual general meeting in Québec City.

AFDU Québec was not very active in 2014-2015. The efforts of the members of our board of directors were directed to organization of the AGM.

**Membership**

* We used the organization of the 2015 CFUW AGM in Québec City to attract new (and former) members to AFDU
* Through social media and our scholarship program we tried to engage younger women and encourage them to join AFDU Québec

**CFUW Visibility**

* Insured that all members of the ADFU executive committee were aware of the CFUW/FCFDU website, branding tools and promotional material
* Included information about CFUW\FCFDU in Info-AFDU (Club newsletter)
* Publicized CFUW/FCFDU at community activities

**Bursaries issued by Fondation AFDU Québec**

* We continue to look for ways to increase the visibility of ADFU bursaries and find new sources of financing and fund raising opportunities for Fondation AFDU Québec
* Promote education for young native women through access to bursaries

**Advocacy**

* AFDU members are informed about the CFUW/FCFDU position on subjects of concern to our membership, especially educational opportunities for native women and the national initiative for violence against women

**Viability**

* We participated in the Spring and Fall provincial council activities and maintained links with the other Québec Clubs.

**Patricia Duval**

**Regional Director Quebec English**

**Visibility and CFUW Profile**

* All Clubs now have a web presence. Sherbrooke and District is now using Facebook instead of their website to communicate with members. Montreal Lakeshore also has a Facebook page. UWC Montreal has a Google + page and a Twitter account with 120 followers, including local media
* Some Clubs advertise activities in local papers.
* Montreal Lakeshore held a Community Night with a speaker and tables from community groups, a public workshop on women’s health, and a documentary film series with a local library. The Club geared some monthly meetings to speakers on topics related to CFUW Resolutions (Cyber Bullying, Mental Health and Non-traditional Roles for Women) with meetings open to the public.
* Sherbrooke and District participated in the 25th Polytechnique Memorial with the Women’s Center
* UWC Montreal participated in the Centraide March of 1,000 Umbrellas, the Sisters in Spirit Vigil, and the 25th Polytechnique Memorial.
* Sherbrooke and District circulates National communications to all Executive members
* Montreal South Shore publishes CFUW Advocacy initiatives and other news in their Newsletter.

**Advocacy**

* The Provincial Council has an initiative to work with aboriginal groups to help support aboriginal women students in post-secondary studies. Sherbrooke and District is especially involved in this. They are working with Champlain College to help aboriginal students apply for national scholarships. They also supplied food cards for some students.
* Three Clubs donate money and/or clothing, etc. to local women’s shelters
* UWC Montreal initiated the CFUW request to reinstate the Therese Casgrain Award, sent letters to the Quebec Ministry of Health, nominated the Montreal Council Woman of the Year Award winner, and circulated a letter on school board voter registration

**Scholarships**

* Clubs donated a total of $48,500 in scholarships and bursaries. Montreal South Shore also donated $500 to the CFUW Charitable Trust.
* In addition, Clubs and their Interest Groups donated approximately $18,500 to community groups and national charities (Ex: Several women’s shelters, Native Women’s Center, Association for the Intellectually Handicapped, a Black Youth center, Cancer hospice, Steven Lewis Foundation)
* Fundraising included:
  + Sherbrooke and District: summer sale with books, food and silent auction; donations from Interest Groups
  + South Shore: Book Sale, small raffles at meetings
  + Montreal Inc.: Silent Auction and Annual Members’ Giving Campaign
  + Lakeshore: Public Concert, Games Day, raffles and sale of books at meetings

**Sustainability**

* All Clubs have updated Constitutions which reflect the new membership criteria.
* Three Clubs have recently done Strategic Plans
* Not all Clubs have been able to fill all Executive positions
* All Clubs have Interest Groups
* All Clubs have speakers at meetings, many open to the public.

**National RD Training project needs**

* All Clubs are concerned about succession planning and attracting new members, especially younger members.
* Other comments
* Carol Mooney, past president of CFUW Sherbrooke and District, received the Governor-General’s Caring Canadian Award from his Excellency the Right Honorable David Johnston at Rideau Hall on April 13, 2015.This award recognizes individuals who volunteer their time to help others and to build a smarter and more caring nation.

**Roseline Anderson**

**Regional Director New Brunswick**

­­­

Efforts this year as the Regional Director of New Brunswick under the strategic aims of CFUW are indicated below. My aim has been to support individual NB Clubs working towards the strategic aims of CFUW while strengthening their individual Clubs.

**Membership**

* Discussions were held with individual Clubs on membership recruitment and retention with ideas shared from the CFUW AGM Membership workshop. Participation in the current Membership teleconferences with Club presidents was encouraged and ideas discussed further at the Club level from these discussions.
* Continuation of the Violence Against Women initiative was encouraged with some Clubs doing significant work in this regard.
* One NB Club saw completion of their first website which was developed through the National office under a pilot website development project with very impressive results.

**Profile**

* Clubs were encouraged to support and raise the public profile of CFUW both locally and nationally. I chaired the Atlantic Regional Council Conference in Saint John NB this year which brought increased publicity about CFUW and encouraged discussions between Clubs. As well, several Clubs had anniversary celebrations which brought more publicity to CFUW both nationally and at the local level.

**Advocacy**

* Discussions occurred with Clubs to encourage supporting CFUW advocacy issues at the Club level within their communities and to take a more active role in CFUW advocacy initiatives. Some Clubs expressed interest in becoming more active in this role.

**Scholarship/Fellowships**

* Most Clubs continued work towards raising scholarship funds within their communities and are considering additional in honor of the CFUW 100th anniversary celebrations in 2019.

**Sustainability**

* Clubs were encouraged to become active in CFUW affairs and to participate in CFUW conferences being held regionally and nationally to learn more about the organization and its work. Encouragement of participation in the Atlantic Regional Council conferences will hopefully see positive results in attendance at the upcoming ARC conference. Club visits were done to 2 Clubs and continued liaison with all Clubs passed on information from CFUW.

**Janet Willwerth**

**Regional Director Nova Scotia**

There are 6 CFUW Clubs in Nova Scotia. They range in size from 3 to just under 60 members.

**Membership**

Membership continues to be a challenge with the Nova Scotia Clubs. With the exception of CFUW Wolfville, all would fit the current characterization of a small Club (less than 50 members). I will keep in touch with new membership initiatives to see if there are any that would be useful for the variety of circumstances that our Clubs face.

**CFUW Profile**

Although the issue of violence against aboriginal women has remained very much in the public eye, the Loretta Saunders project that I was attending has reached only the goal of establishing a scholarship for a female aboriginal student. That is helpful. Several of the Clubs have been busy. The Halifax President has succeeded in having several Letters to the Editor published, and the Wolfville Club has had its name attached to a plaque awarded at the local music festival, as well as partnering with Acadia University students for its book sale. I have continued to suggest that Clubs partner with others in order to raise our profile in the community.

**Advocacy**

One of the major initiatives for advocacy for the latter half of this year is the planning of the Atlantic Regional Conference to be held in the fall. Its theme is “Women Working for Change: Advocacy in Action”, and we will be fortunate to be joined by Tara Fischer and Teri Shaw. We are optimistic that our Clubs will be energized to focus more on advocacy in their communities.

**Scholarship/Fellowships**

Our Clubs continue their fundraising for their individual awards. In talking to a couple of them, I know that there is some concern about the sustainability of fundraising projects, largely due to some fatigue with those who have been working on them, and the lack of “new blood” in the Clubs. I will monitor this situation as the fall approaches to see if any assistance can be offered.

**Sustainability**

At least 4 Clubs (CFUW Dartmouth, CFUW Wolfville and CFUW Truro) are having trouble filling all executive positions. I will make sure that they know that there is flexibility in their executive structure that can be followed up with amendments to their articles and by-laws to make sure that their executive can carry out the Club functions without being tied to a structure that no longer works.

**Heather Huestis**

**Regional Director Prince Edward Island**

There are five strategic aims of CFUW: Membership, Public Profile, Advocacy, Scholarships/Fellowships and Sustainability. CFUW Charlottetown has drawn on these aims to enhance our public profile.

A memorial service for the Montreal Massacre was attended at the Confederation Centre of the Arts. CFUW Charlottetown made its annual donation to Ecole Polytechnique Fund.

One of CFUW Charlottetown’s aims was to study the elementary school curriculum by enlisting three different speakers from different areas; Dr. Tess Miller from the University of Prince Edward Island, Brenda Larsen, a math specialist from the Department of Education, and thirdly, PEI’s superintendent of the English school board.

CFUW Charlottetown celebrated its sixtieth anniversary as a Club in Oct 2014 and Kathleen Casey, a representative from provincial government spoke to the group. Also present was eastern vice-president, Grace Hollett.

A presentation was made to our Club in March 2015 by Ruth Lacey on a project that she would like us to sponsor for the Creative Arts Award. We are hopeful that this $4000.00 project is accepted as it would provide twelve marginalized school children with a course.

**Barbara Clancy**

**Regional Director Newfoundland and Labrador**

**Chair of RD Group**

**Membership**

* The membership of CFUW Corner Brook currently stands at 9 members.  They started in September with 11 members but one member moved away from the area and another had a scheduling conflict for the meeting time.
* CFUW St John's has a membership of 112 members, an increase of 12 members over last year.  Nearly all of the new members joined as a result of being brought to meeting or the Open House event by a member friend.

**Advocacy**

* Both Clubs in Newfoundland were very active with advocacy projects this year.  CFUW St. John's and CFUW Corner Brook both sent letters in support of resolutions passed at the 2014 AGM.   CFUW Corner Brook also sent letters to federal and provincial members supporting a universal public child care program. A large number of members of CFUW St. John's attended the vigil in memory of the women who were murdered at the Ecole Polytechnique and participated in the Purple Ribbon campaign sponsored by the provincial government's Women's Policy Office.

**Scholarships**

* Both Newfoundland Clubs are justifiably proud of their fundraising efforts and the sponsorship of scholarships that result.  Corner Brook raised money through ticket sales on Valentine's Day basket.  It was immensely successful and members are discussing the possibility of awarding a second scholarship next year.  The scholarship was presented at the annual Corner Brook Status of Women lunch.
* CFUW St. John's raises funds for scholarships and community outreach programs through its giant used book sale each spring.   The 2014 sale was very successful and resulted in $31,000 being awarded in scholarships and bursaries and $2500 being budgeted for community outreach.  The 2015 sale was the best one yet and $39,000 will be awarded in scholarships and bursaries and community outreach locally, nationally, and internationally.

**Public Profile**

* CFUW has a very positive public profile in the two cities where there are Clubs.  CFUW Corner Brook found that there was much interest in CFUW and what we do during the basket ticket sales project. The Club realizes now that this would be a great opportunity to recruit members and next year will have membership materials there as well.   St. John's very high profile book sale introduces many people to the mission of CFUW through radio and TV interviews and PSAs on the local media. St. John's also partners with the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary and the Coalition Against Violence.  St.  John's also invested in a pull-up banner which is prominently displayed at every event that the Club participates in.

**Sustainability**

* Succession plans for the 2015-2016 year are in place for both Clubs. There will be a delegate from the St. John's Club attending the AGM in Quebec City in June to take advantage of the discovery and learning sessions as well as attend the business meetings.  Corner Brook was encouraged to apply for the Small Club Grant to no avail.  CFUW St. John's has several interest groups that continue through the summer months that allow members to keep in touch.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR 2014-2015**

**Eleanor Scarth**

**Chair, CFUW Resolutions Committee**

**Membership of committee**

Recruited committee members with effort for regional representation.   
Thanks to the following members of Clubs in BC and Ontario who agreed to serve.   
Teresa Habs – CFUW Barrie and District  
Hazel Magnussen – CFUW Parksville/Qualicum  
Fran Manning – CFUW Ottawa  
Mary McEwen – CFUW Guelph  
Babs Perowne- CFUW West Vancouver  
Peggy Pinkerton – CFUW Etobicoke  
Charlotte Rigby- CFUW Ottawa  
Phyllis Scott- CFUW West Vancouver

**Advocacy**

* Committee received three draft resolutions by the deadline of September 30 and provided feedback to the three proposing Clubs.   
  Two Clubs carried on to submit proposed draft resolutions by the deadline of November 15   
  Resolution 1 – Saving our Pollinators and Our Environment: Moratorium on the Use of Neonicotinoid Pesticides (proposed by CFUW Edmonton)   
  Resolution 2 – Reducing Climate Change Through the Use of Carbon Taxes (proposed by CFUW Victoria)
* These two went on to all Clubs for the amending process from mid November to March 31
* Revised Resolution Guidelines with assistance of some committee members- approved by board and made available to all Clubs. Of note- two new deadlines- June 30 - for intent of regular resolutions for AGM the following year and May 15 -for emergency resolutions for AGM of current year.
* Answered questions from some Clubs re process and possible topics for emergency resolutions and questions re topics for regular resolutions for AGM 2016.  
  Committee has given feedback to two Clubs for their draft emergency resolutions, and these two, having been submitted by May 15, will come forward to the AGM.
* Committee responded to an initial draft White paper compiled by Robin and Tara.   
  With their feedback and after discussion with Robin, Tara and Teri – a “White Paper on Resolutions” process will be introduced to all Clubs at the 2015 AGM with a view to looking at all aspects of resolutions including timeline; topics; policy book; guidelines; use of technology; etc.
* As chair, participated in two phone conferences with the Advocacy committee

**Myra Willis**

**Chair, Articles and Bylaws Committee**

The Committee consists of Myra Willis (Chair), Joyce Noseworthy, and Elizabeth Haynes.

If there is no objection to motions that deal with the same subject and are dependent on one another be moved as one motion, then three amendments will be moved and voted on during the business meeting at the AGM. One part of one motion is a housekeeping motion. All were received and vetted and sent forward to the Clubs for amendments to the amendments on February 17, 2015. There were two amendments to the amendments received by the due date of May 1, 2015. Both were vetted and forwarded to the proposers.

There is a proposers and amenders meeting scheduled at the AGM. The amendments will be moved and voted on during the Business Meeting.

I would like to thank the committee for their time and effort.

**Patricia McGregor**

**Chair, Fellowships Committee**

The Fellowships’ Committee met on March 27 and 28 at the Cartier Place Suite Hotel in Ottawa.

Friday was a very long but successful meeting. The winners of the scholarships were chosen but the other committee business had to be postponed until Saturday morning.

Along with the usual Annual Business Meeting Agenda, the following items were presented.

Ruth Binnie was a founding member of the Nova Scotia Home Economics Association and the Ruth Binnie Fellowships. It had become apparent that more applicants, from the Home Economics programs, needed to be encouraged to apply for this award. The parameters were re-worded in order to clarify the expectations and incorporate the original intent of Ruth Binnie.

Kathryn Wilkinson, the incoming Education V.P (should it be approved by the AGM), has many ideas for promoting the scholarships in general. Kathryn already has plans to contact various education facilities in order to make them aware of the Ruth Binnie scholarship.

The wording of the Linda Souter Humanities Award was honed in order to avoid any misunderstandings. It will be readdressed in a year.

We are very proud to be introducing the Aboriginal Women’s Award. This does, however, introduce a great deal of work as a separate application form along with guidelines and instructions have to be created before the next application time frame.

The committee is extremely grateful to both Robin Jackson and Betty Dunlop for their support and assistance during the year.

**Cheryl Hayles**

**Vice President International/Coordinator for International Relations**

**Chair, History Committee and 100th Anniversary Committee**

1. **Notable Women Award**

* Details of the award, including criteria, to be announced at the 2016 AGM
* Nomination deadline of December 31, 2017
* Selection to be made by January 31, 2019
* Awards announced at AGM 2019

**2. Stamp**

CFUW will re-submit in 2017 as per Canada Post policy.

**3. History Plaque**

Parks Canada Agency, Government of Canada, will erect a plaque acknowledging the 100th Anniversary of CFUW. The exact location of the plaque will be announced later.

**4. 100th Anniversary Scholarship Project**

To celebrate CFUW’s support of women’s studies since 1919, Clubs, Councils and members have been invited to award, at both the local and national level, an additional $100,000 in scholarships and awards during the anniversary year.  To date $31,000 has been donated to the CFUW Charitable Trust for additional fellowships in 2019.

LOCAL AWARDS:

Local awards must be awarded between January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019

Local awards must have the phrase: “CFUW 100th Anniversary” in the award name

NATIONAL AWARDS

Donations given for additional 100th Anniversary Fellowships through the national Fellowship Program must reach the Charitable Trust Treasurer by January 1, 2018

TIMELINE FOR CLUB / INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS TO THE FELLOWSHIP AWARDS

Commitment of Funds to the Trust September 1, 2017

Additional Anniversary Awards Approved by Trustees October 1, 2017

Anniversary Funding received by Trust Treasurer January 1, 2018

2019 Fellowship Awards approved by the National Board January 31, 2018

2019 Fellowship Awards Advertised by National Office March 2018

Deadline for 2019 Fellowship Awards applications November 1, 2018

Winners decided by Fellowship Committee March 31, 2019

2019 Fellowship Awards Announced May 2019

2019 Fellowship Awards Awarded September 2019

**5. The History Project**

Histories of all Past Presidents are being prepared. These biographies will be made available to members.

**Grace Hollett**

**Vice President Atlantic**

**CFUW History Committee**

The History Committee has contacted prospective writers and received biographies of 32 Past Presidents with 4 remaining to be completed.

Research has been done for the biography of A Vibert Douglas, (the first CFUW member to become IFUW President). Biographies of past Executive Directors for whom information is available have been written, as have the biographies of Betty Tugman, Jo Lane and Alice E Wilson.

The Presidents’ Biographies have been passed to an Editorial Committee whose completion date is March 31, 2016. The biography of CFUW’s first President and the list of Presidents have been submitted to the CFUW for presentation at AGM 2015.

Research of CFUW’s History is continuing by the History Committee and the Editorial Committee with assistance from National Office and Ivana Caccia of Ottawa.

The History Committee prepared a submission for the Board urging the writing of CFUW’s History in the context of Canada’s social history and subsequently wrote a “Request for Proposals”. Currently this is being revised to make it more attractive to prospective writers.

**Grace Stapleton**

**Chair, Nominations Committee**

# September 2014

Members who volunteered for the Nominations Committee for 2014-2016 are Wilma Clapham (CFUW Ottawa), Eileen Harvey (CFUW Yorkton), Patricia Atkinson (CFUW Richmond), and Grace Stapleton, CFUW St. John’s. We were unable to find a member from Quebec.

The Terms of Reference for the Committee were revised and submitted to the Board.

**October/November 2014/ January 2015**

The CFUW Nominations Policy and Procedures were revised to provide for a nominations procedure in the second year of each biennium, including nominations/elections of the CFUW Board at the AGM. Input was requested from the committee members, the Articles and Bylaws Committee and Board members. In January a revision was made to allow for the replacement of a Board member or Regional Director outside of the normal nominations/elections period.

# January – April, 2015

In mid-January, following the resignation of the Regional Director for BC West, nominations were declared open for that position. The on-line Nominations Form was adapted for this purpose, and all Clubs in the region were invited to submit nominations. Two “reminders” were sent to the executives of the eleven Clubs. Only one nomination was received. At the close of the nomination period that nominee was declared elected by acclamation. Notification was sent to the President, the VP British Columbia, the successful nominee, and the Clubs in BC West.

# April, 2015

The revised/updated Nominations Policy and Procedures was accepted by the Board.

**Tracey Otto**

**Chair, Library and Creative Arts Committee**

The Committee members were tasked with a number of challenges:

* The Chair had to find members for the Committee
* Successfully redevelop and launch the Creative Arts Award, while adhering to a very short timeline-
  + This was the first year the Creative Arts Award was offered through CFUW National, and not by The Banff Centre For the Arts
  + The Chair found two new members for the Committee by end July 2014
  + As directed, the Award was redeveloped and submitted to the VP Finance and VP Advocacy by September 2014
  + The Award was opened as of January 1st, 2015
  + The Award closed March 30th, 2015
  + Applicants were notified by email their applications had been received
  + The Committee chose a winner by May 1st, 2015
  + The winner was sent to the VP Education May 4th, 2015 for Board approval
  + The successful applicant will be contacted directly by the Chair
  + The unsuccessful candidates will be contacted by the Chair
  + The winner will be announced at the National AGM in Quebec City by the VP Education (none of the Committee members will be in attendance)

The Committee is redeveloping the criteria and procedures for the Library Award. The process for this redevelopment began in April 2015.

**SPECIAL APPOINTEES - REPORTS FOR 2014-2015**

**Brenda Canitz**

**Chair, CFUW Representative to Canadian Commission for UNESCO**

*Brenda Canitz (CFUW Victoria) replaced Liette Michaud (CFUW Montreal) in June 2014 as the CFUW representative on the CCUNESCO! Thanks to Liette for your years of liaison with the commission!*

***Weaving together the Aspirations of Canadians and UNESCO for the Common Good,***CCUNESCO Annual General Meeting, *Victoria BC, June 2014*. Susan Murphy and Brenda Canitz attended the 54th AGM of CCUNESCO in Victoria BC from June 5 to 7, 2014. Over 170 delegates came from NGOs, Government agencies and partner organizations to address the three key goals of the meeting:

1. To begin discussions and stimulate action on the themes of knowledge plurality, aboriginal languages and culture revitalization in Canada, and the common good of humanity.
2. To connect members of the various CCUNESCO networks and local communities, including aboriginal communities.
3. To highlight the work of CCUNESCO's networks and stakeholders and the way they embody the ideals of UNESCO in Canada, demonstrating UNESCO's value and relevance for Canadians in a practical way.

During the two plenary sessions, four key speakers spoke to the three goals of the conference.

* Bud Hall maintains that the common good requires the democratization of knowledge,
* Lorna Williams discussed the residential schools, learning and cultural identity,
* Michelle Stanton-Jean spoke on responsibility, justice, autonomy and solidarity as founding principles of universal common good, and
* Danika B. Littlechild spoke on reciprocity, reconciliation and participation as essential components of effective and meaningful relations with aboriginal peoples, UNESCO and Canada.

Congruent workshops used various forms of artistic expression and formal presentations to encourage in-depth dialogue and discussion of the goals of the conference:

* Eli Enns spoke on improving our understanding of the cultures, languages and ways of knowing;
* Lauren Jerke provided an overview of diversity in UNESCO, the Commission, its networks; and
* Bruno Jame d Oliveir presented the involvement of Canadians in UNESCO and UNESCO related activities.

**The Canadian Commission for UNESCO Fall meeting** was in Ottawa on November 24, 2014. Members provided an update on developments in the fields of Adult Education and equity in education internationally and in Canada. An in-depth discussion was held on *The Muscat Agreement (2014)* which focuses on “Ensuring equitable and inclusive quality education and lifelong learning for all by 2030”. <http://www.uis.unesco.org/Education/Documents/muscat-agreement-2014.pdf>. CFUW, YWCA and Arctic College presented on ‘Life long Learning and Equity in Education’. CFUW’s presentation focused the women’s equity issues in education with a special focus on the unique needs of aboriginal women, immigrant women, incarcerated women and women living in poverty. Following our presentations the commission agreed to focus the next meeting on the educational needs of disadvantaged groups (see below). Thanks to Tara and Robin in our national office for providing back ground materials!

**NATIONAL OFFICE REPORT FOR 2014-2015**

**MEMBERSHIP**

**Statistics for 2014-2015:**

Supplies shipped to Clubs (brochures, membership cards, etc.): 8,514 items

Certificates prepared: 223

Saleable (logo) items sent to Clubs: 372

News + Update issues published: 26

Press Agency Issues published: 8

Communicator issues published: 2

Responded to Member Inquiries: 1,421

Week in Review issues published: 16

Tools for Action published: 5

**Staff participated in Operation Connect with the President to speak to the Club Presidents, Board members, RDs and Committee Chairs.**

**Staff prepared** several documents for the Membership Task Force on other possible categories of membership; a toolkit on Organizing Community Events and “New Channels to Promote CFUW Membership”.

Staff attended the workshop on Club Revitalization presented by Brandi Hodge of United Way at CFUW Belleville and the Child Care Forum presented by CFUW Guelph.

**PROFILE**

Staff implemented the rebranding and modernization initiatives and provided advice to Clubs on how to implement them. In carrying out this work, template membership cards, brochures, in memorium cards, letterhead and folded business cards were created for Club use.

An organizational Facebook page and Twitter account were created. Work began on redesigning the CFUW website to incorporate the modernization tools and to assist in getting CFUW better known so that women will want to join CFUW and membership in our Clubs will increase. Along with this goal are three other primary mission- driven aims: to get people to take action on our advocacy issues, fund women’s education and provide support to our Clubs in assisting them to build leadership skills and opportunities for lifelong learning.

In the past year, National observed that approximately 25 CFUW Clubs do not have a website. In an effort to support these Clubs, we offered the opportunity to participate in a new CFUW membership recruitment initiative. Using feedback from the New Beginnings survey from 2013, we discovered that many Clubs are looking for support to reach out to new members, in particular online. Having an online presence is a great way to advertise a Club to potential new members, but not all Clubs have the means to purchase or construct a webpage. Therefore, national offered to these Clubs that we would create and host free websites for these Clubs. The idea was to direct local women to where they can attend a meeting and/or the contact person best-suited to answer any questions they may have. Ideally, we would like it to be possible for someone to Google any CFUW Club and have direct access to information on how to join them and what it is they do. To date, we have had expressions of interest from 13 Clubs of which three websites have been completed and two are in progress.

**Advocacy Media Coverage**

Staff drafted 3 articles for publication in the Winnipeg Free Press including: “Reworking Canada’s Prostitution Law”, “[Are the Leaders Up for this Debate?](http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/opinion/analysis/Are-the-leaders-up-for-this-debate-282917311.html)” and “We’re a long way from true equality”.

During the 16 Days of Activism to End Gender Violence staff prepared template articles which were published by CFUW Presidents in various news outlets:

* Vernon Morning Star (CFUW Vernon)
* [The Chronicle Herald](http://thechronicleherald.ca/opinion/1255843-time-for-a-reckoning-on-women%E2%80%99s-issues) (CFUW Halifax)
* [SouthWesternOntario.ca](http://www.southwesternontario.ca/community/making-womens-lives-better/)
* [Guelph Mercury](http://www.guelphmercury.com/opinion-story/5178645-a-plan-is-needed-to-end-violence-against-women/) (CFUW Guelph)
* [Richmond News](http://www.richmond-news.com/news/group-speaks-out-against-violence-against-women-1.1625245) (CFUW Richmond)
* [Durham Region News](http://www.durhamregion.com/opinion-story/5165893-to-end-violence-against-women-canada-needs-a-plan/) and [MyKawartha.com](http://www.mykawartha.com/opinion-story/5165893-to-end-violence-against-women-canada-needs-a-plan/) (CFUW Oshawa and District)
* [Portage Daily Graphic](http://www.portagedailygraphic.com/2014/12/04/purple-initiative-to-bring-awareness-about-domestic-violence) (CFUW Portage la Prairie)
* [Bayshore Broadcasting](http://www.bayshorebroadcasting.ca/news_item.php?NewsID=71167) (Port Elgin)

Staff prepared template articles for Club Presidents’ use for International Women’s Day which were published in the following media:

* Radio Interview with Terry MacLeod, CBC Winnipeg (National)
* [East Kootenay News Online](http://www.e-know.ca/news/making-womens-equality-reality/) (CFUW Cranbrook)
* [Inside Halton](http://www.insidehalton.com/opinion-story/5463501-action-must-make-promises-come-true/) (CFUW Oakville)
* [The Guardian](http://www.theguardian.pe.ca/Opinion/Letter-to-editor/2015-03-03/article-4063779/Making-women%26rsquo%3Bs-equality-a-reality/1) (CFUW Charlottetown)
* [Truro Daily](http://www.trurodaily.com/Opinion/Columns/2015-03-03/article-4063674/Making-women%26rsquo%3Bs-equality-a-reality/1) (CFUW Truro)
* [Vernon Morning Star](http://www.vernonmorningstar.com/lifestyles/294197561.html) (CFUW Vernon)

**ADVOCACY**

**Education**

* **CFUW Calls for Action to Address Growing Low Literacy in Canada**

On September 8th, International Literacy Day, CFUW called on federal, provincial and territorial governments to address the troubling growth in low literacy among Canadians.

* **Gender Differences in Academic Pursuits and Career Outcomes**
* CFUW blogged about the gender differences in academic pursuits, the impact of student debt, and the pay gap. An education analysis for the 2015 Budget was prepared by staff
* Prepared the Education and Training Section of the Beijing +20 “Women’s Rights Missing in Action” joint report published by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

**Women’s Economic Security**

* **CFUW Contributes to Status of Women Committee Study on Women's Economic Prosperity and Leadership**

CFUW staff prepared a brief for submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on the Status of Women’s study on economic leadership and prosperity of Canadian Women, including a discussion of the importance of access to education for women, and freedom from violence.

* **CFUW Participates in Financial Literacy Consultation**

In response to the Financial Consumer Agency of Canada's consultation questions on "Toward a National Strategy for Financial Literacy, Phase 1: Strengthening Seniors' Financial Literacy", CFUW submitted comments highlighting the financial literacy needs of senior women.

* **All Party Anti-Poverty Caucus**

CFUW staff participated in the All Party Anti-Poverty Caucus meeting focused on poverty and childcare.

**Violence Against Women and Girls**

* With several other organizations, CFUW staff helped develop a [Blueprint for a National Action Plan on Violence against Women and Girls](http://endvaw.ca/sites/endvaw.ca/files/blueprint_for_canadas_nap_on_vaw.pdf), which was released in March 2015.
* **CFUW Calls for Action on Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women and Girls**

CFUW joined with the Native Women's Association of Canada, the Assembly of First Nations, the Canadian Human Rights Commission and others in calling on elected officials to address the disproportionate violence Aboriginal women and girls experience, including through a full public inquiry into missing and murdered Aboriginal women, and a national action plan.CFUW staff prepared letters to be sent to the [Minister of Justice](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001_C-3f9HP1KrYbPfYRxWKGEhfs1fc7NbdgID1gQrc6PsvEs_RjrKzv90_BTVhjwe0LK28XCU0Eh8YWHl7HdoNlOxOP7Y4Q_JvPNx7qh0CXxo9mfsFyoNK85Rf6TxWA5c0Ohmvq0BzdMyjhlB782C2ECVlQuOkYb_aY_KN-KLDOBY_xMbTycFES66dBxC88eyYdNe5hJLY-ff-G6XLQLyjDADmywjHiEEisIO9pBHaDgEkybvJdDEqxaBUulLtbcvQzf6iNu0RbK3XdDSZ7KSMJgVPCOIZfnkl), and the Premiers of every province.

* **CFUW Applauds Status of Women Minister for Agreeing to Participate in Round table**

A [letter to the Minister](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001CboiPFBHiyQ8KLrDqLc-eK2sTFcQ2XU4iSJSgWFpDzkJmhbolOh9k75wd2C3fNbkWJ3ao59u1xuOvSnhFv4mpZsgUreylDR5EWfc9eOOi43NH2lP5XXWqlxEz4RO06pYCFTPOs3_i4YEUXCpWyCR8DuTd1eIPzgd9RbF5ttdEeDOcNDZ6kIlU5ojLJJzz1RgvmFPt1cEYlbd8RWhxzcxwD2zv9_3nNapKB8Ozk0oGjysldYVb7R1z2bMBBSClS_LWJwLX_Rq87YCVKC9jjKnWJtHz5pjAFSi) of Status of Women was drafted by staff to commend the Honourable Dr. Kellie Leitch, for agreeing to participate in the round table on violence against aboriginal women and ask that the Government of Canada consider expanding their proposed action plan.

* **From Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women to Abducted Nigerian School Girls: CFUW Call for Action**

In letters drafted by staff to the Ministers of  [Justice , Public Safety](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001VpKa1WBXYrMRn7XmjX5Cp_7P5gG53kDZlYjMFivX0tt187y27n06391RfFGety6Hhfu7whnyATR48KxNwkkL_j3BFCspTCbRc6aC9mN2_EmUjeQHWIfXDTHV3bI5YbTa9bUNJ3YVPlTd9KHGPYv4SWHG9sgrjx6EnxreyVHhgS2VF9KP6KtcThQGFK8InNheOegxRkUSg0Ygg-QKRZZZQJH3XXMsWlaq1W9yHuK-ltqO6AsHVjbIEY88-wsVhF_c59iB6vTAlbZWvWlQ7uUbvodBD4avcLM-), and the [Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001VpKa1WBXYrMRn7XmjX5Cp_7P5gG53kDZlYjMFivX0tt187y27n06391RfFGety6Hhfu7whnyATR48KxNwkkL_j3BFCspTCbRc6aC9mN2_EmUjeQHWIfXDTHV3bI5YbTa9bUNJ3YVPlTd9KHGPYv4SbPgwhJk-5Ibs492dBmgpDfPylfoTwD7N4MCj1d9XTprkoHICKdsvcBpciTb6wpqqlsYAYhvTcZl0NZ6RInkCCVTxPHP54QEjvPE3mtvJsOU), CFUW called on the federal government to take immediate action in response to the over 200 abducted schoolgirls in Nigeria and echoed support for an impartial public commission of inquiry into missing and murdered indigenous women, along with a national action plan.

* Staff prepared materials for Club use for the National Initiative on Violence against Women, including resources for Clubs use during the 16 Days of Activism to End Violence against Women (e.g. template letters, letters to the editor, op-eds, and social media messages)

**Prostitution of Women and Girls**

* **CFUW Responds to Bill C-36**

In a [letter drafted by staff to Justice Minister, Peter Mackay](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001D_5h_qtBBxgafuHNBL7xCES4wXoCFDOw0HZX4f_v13yZe7m54YVRixfyWJ24-ZkzJaLOmcC-wm4SC5CsaaZk0yZy0b0AwujDf4x6MLRAkTqUZhAYzYVdAUQdXNK6IXfnsDCB16AYz3ekCSgj4LT48sC9VjGeWx-sExF2PPqSo67BTCpVAxP5bPGqEmow7xeVkOcILaTKswdnlrx24VGBHYTt-iVnEghP12Ei9BogZ9a-0pGs5W6SKRn4PsOP4oIjj625qrW5MqKW_xMfMVlsNw==), CFUW voiced it concern that prostitution exit services will not be sufficient to meet short term and long term needs, and asked that the Government of Canada undertake a comprehensive needs assessment.

* **Winnipeg Free Press: Op-Ed on Reworking Canada’s Prostitution Laws**

Staff assisted in preparing an Op-Ed for the Winnipeg Free Press for CFUW’s National President, Doris Mae Oulton, on Canada's Prostitution Laws.

**Reproductive Health and Rights**

* **CFUW Responds to the Closure of the Morgentaler Clinic**

In a [letter drafted by staff to the Premier of New Brunswick and the Minister of Health](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001VpKa1WBXYrMRn7XmjX5Cp_7P5gG53kDZlYjMFivX0tt187y27n06391RfFGety6H4UN8-i2RuEeEwbUbGbw4SroHiaoEZLPyP902bQ-yBuDxUN9xagPoUtShWfEXRZTmAaYY4Loz_1S6_zYTlZIQcmpvZLrMh74eHc_sq-fyZRqQCylwgYrd1_kR6pnpSD_QZaDi023QZts=), CFUW called on the New Brunswick Government to repeal a regulation in the Medical Services Payment Act that prevents the province from funding abortions in private clinics and forces women to seek permission from two doctors to obtain an abortion in a hospital.

**Gender Budgeting**

* **CFUW Participates in 2014 Pre-Budget Consultations**

CFUW staff drafted the submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance for its pre-budget consultations, highlighting the need to make the upcoming budget responsive to gender difference by allocating funds to support women’s economic prosperity, and to end violence against women and girls.

* A gender analysis of the 2015 Budget was prepared by staff.

**Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action**

* **CFUW Contributes to Joint Report on Canada’s Implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action**

As part of a network of over 30 NGOs, Trade Unions and Experts, CFUW staff helped prepare a joint report entitled [Progress on Women’s Rights: Missing in Action](http://www.policyalternatives.ca/beijing20), for Canada’s 20-year review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPfA).

* **Written Statement for the 59th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 59)**

Staff supported the preparation of the [written submission](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001QO81nYC51Xd_sg19GA2uMe9ioWfkXOFzNCuHzbLvdVu6HYFpp09IyReYMmfHVK2rpwDt9xnY11ulpnYQhLn-YTvCPnDZkqwQ0EgK55S8cKz6U-5gVFsRFCtAfA7p0qOfjjcUJ21ZgCesB315nKeQSc5gGK_KCdIWzEZWZGlkiAqffdy9kT6OfwjCAxYWO1NU-C7juvN9Jn_MZzirYJpYSw==) to the 59th session of United Nations Commission on the Status of Women which undertook a review of the progress made towards implementing the BPfA, 20 years after its adoption at the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995.

**International Women’s Day**

* **Event in the National Capital Region**

CFUW staff co-organized an event for International Women’s Day with a number of international national and local organizations in Ottawa, including Oxfam Canada, Inter Pares, Amnesty International Canada, Planned Parenthood Ottawa, and the Human Rights Education and Research Centre.

**2015 Federal Election Campaign: Up for Debate**

* CFUW staff provided significant support during the year to build an alliance and campaign of over 150 women’s organizations and their allies united in raising awareness about women’s rights in the lead up to the 2015 federal election. ***Up for Debate*** calls on all political parties to commit to a federal leaders’ debate on issues identified by women – the first in 30 years, and to make meaningful commitments to change women’s lives for the better, at home and abroad by:
* Ending violence against women
* Ending women’s economic inequality
* Supporting women’s leadership and organizations

**Women Peace and Security**

* **Women, Peace and Security Network Canada**

As an ongoing participant within the Women, Peace and Security Network Canada, CFUW staff contributed to their strategic planning for the year, participated in consultations with International Red Cross’ Director of Operations, and prepared a [joint letter to Minister Nicholson](http://wpsn-canada.org/2015/03/24/letter-to-foreign-minister-rob-nicholson/) following his appointment as the new Foreign Affairs Minister.

* **Nuclear Abolition**

CFUW participating in preparing a [joint letter](http://www.cfuw.org/Portals/0/Advocacy/AdvocacyIssues/International/Letter%20to%20GOC%20re%202015%20NPT%20(Final).pdf) with the Canadian Network to Abolish Nuclear Weapons to Foreign Affairs Minister, Rob Nicholson, including recommendations on the 2015 Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

* **Culture of Peace**

Following up on CFUW’s 2014 resolution on promoting a culture of peace, CFUW staff drafted a [letter](http://www.cfuw.org/Portals/0/Advocacy/AdvocacyIssues/International/Letter%20to%20Foriegn%20Affairs%20Minister%20Re%20Culture%20of%20Peace.pdf) to Minister Nicholson

**Meetings with Parliamentarians and Officials**

Over the past year, staff attended the following meetings with Parliamentarians and Officials:

* Elizabeth May, Leader of the Green Party of Canada;
* Kirsty Duncan, Liberal Party of Canada Critic for International Development and Status of Women and International;
* Lysane Blanchette-Lamothe, Official Opposition Critic for Citizenship and Immigration
* Marc Garneau, Liberal Party of Canada Critic for Foreign Affairs;
* Mylène Freeman, Chair of the NDP Women’s Caucus;
* Megan Leslie, Official Opposition Critic for the Environment;
* Office of the Leader of the Official Opposition;
* Office of the Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada;
* Peter Julian, Official Opposition House Leader
* Romeo Saganash, Official Opposition for Intergovernmental Aboriginal Affairs
* Canada's Ambassador to Afghanistan, Deborah Lyons, to discuss her ongoing work to promote Afghan women's rights
* CFUW staff participated in consultations with Human Rights Officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD) in the lead up to the 25th, 26th and 27th sessions of the United Nations Human Rights Council meetings in Geneva.
* Participated in the Consultation on Workplace Protections for Interns with the Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Labour
* Met with Policy Staff in the Office of the Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada
* Met with Mylene Freeman, new Status of Women Critic for the NDP
* Met with Carolyn Bennett, Liberal Aboriginal Affairs Critic
* Consultation with Thomas Perez, United States, Secretary of State, Labour to discuss family policy, specifically maternal and paternal leave policies in Canada
* Met with Irene Mathyssen, NDP Seniors critic for Up for Debate campaign, also discussed her bill on removing tax on feminine hygiene products
* Consultations with Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development for the Human Rights Council

**Standing Committee on Advocacy**

Staff provided support for the meetings of the Standing Committee on Advocacy.

**Resolutions**

Staff provided support to the Resolutions Committee throughout the year, including the preparation of the annual post-resolution advocacy package for the 7 adopted resolutions at the 2014 AGM, preparing letters to Ministers regarding the resolutions, providing feedback to 2015 resolution proposers, and preparing communications to members (e.g. proposed resolutions for amendment).

**SCHOLARSHIPS/FELLOWSHIPS**

**Annual Fellowship statistics:**

* Number of Fellowship applications received and processed: 426
* Number of Fellowship applications sent forward to Committee: 391
* Number of Fellowship inquiries responded to: 3,720

During the year under review, staff designed a booklet of Fellowships, Awards, Scholarships and Bursaries 2014 with templates featuring new CFUW branding for Clubs to customize for their own scholarships, bursaries and donations. The annual e-newsletter for the Financial Aid offices in Canadian universities and selected international universities was prepared and distributed. The new Linda Souter Humanities Award was implemented with 43 applications received. Staff worked with the Charitable Trust to develop the criteria for the new Aboriginal Women’s Award. Development of the guidelines, application forms, advertising and marketing for the Aboriginal Women’s Award is in progress to be ready to offer the awards for the 2016 year. Staff provided support to the Charitable Trust by preparing the first separate annual report for the organization; identifying a speaker for the Fellowships Luncheon at the AGM; advertising the Boutique. An initial report proposing a feasibility study to investigate instituting online applications using a web based platform for the fellowships and awards was prepared.

**SUSTAINABILITY**

With the end of the six- year photocopier lease and a decision to lease to buy a smaller copier, we have achieved savings of approximately $12,000 a year. During the year under review, we were able to see a modest increase in the rent for our tenant, UN Women Canada. We were also successful in renting a desk to the Coalition for Gun Control but this lasted only for two months when the Coordinator left her post and the office was no longer required by the Coalition. We have continued to receive revenue from our Affinity Partners programs which totaled $7,100 this year. In an effort to provide support to the organization of the annual general meetings, staff worked with the 2015 LAC committee to negotiate the hotel and registration contracts, redesign the AGM schedule and draft poster session guidelines. Letters of agreement for the 2016 and 2017 AGMs were prepared and negotiations with the 2016 venue were commenced.

Staff continued in its duties to support the activities of the Board by preparing the meeting agendas, minutes and policy papers as required. Staff provided support to the Finance Committee by preparing background information and briefing books for their March meeting. Research on various national past Presidents was undertaken at the request of the History Committee. A paper outlining options for storing and distributing for sale biographies of CFUW Past Presidents was prepared. In recognition and to celebrate CFUW’s 100th Anniversary, the History Committee proposed that a history of the CFUW should be written and published; in response to their request, a feasibility study was prepared to examine budget, content, risks and opportunities, target audiences, possible authors, project management, timing and schedule, funding possibilities, publishing and marketing and distribution.

In response to some requests from Clubs which do not have insurance coverage, an initial investigation was mounted into the costs and logistics of **getting general liability insurance coverage for those Clubs without it.**